

# LIBRARY OCCURRENT

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October, 1917

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The Occurrent for October 1917 has been delayed so that it might include the reports of the war library campaign and the minutes of the Indiana Library Association meeting at Fort Wayne, October 16th and 17th.

Miss Carrie E. Scott, for ten years assistant state organizer for the Public Library Commission of Indiana, on October 1, 1917, resigned her position to take charge of the children's department and the school department of the Indianapolis Public Library. Probably no individual has so wide an acquaintance among the librarians and library trustees of Indiana as has Miss Scott. Credit for much of the improvement made in library conditions in this state is due to Miss Scott's sound sense and real interest in public libraries. The position which she has accepted offers her an opportunity for service which she is peculiarly fitted to render. It will be a source of congratulation to her many friends

that Miss Scott is still to remain in Indiana, although she will not be in immediate touch with the library affairs of the state. All who know Miss Scott will congratulate her upon her larger opportunity and the public library of Indianapolis upon its good fortune in securing such valuable help in reorganizing its work.

## THE INDIANA LIBRARY TRUSTEES ASSOCIATION.

The Trustees Association, under the presidency of Mr. E. J. Llewelyn, superintendent of schools at New Castle, Indiana, will meet at the Hotel Severin, Indianapolis, November 20 and 21. This year, by custom, brings the separate meetings of the Indiana Library Association and the Indiana Library Trustees Association. In view of the present war and the peculiar conditions which it causes, every trustee should endeavor to be present. The Trustees Association has been a very effective influence in the development of the library conditions of the state both in helping attending trustees and in accomplishing constructive work in the state.

The tentative program for the coming meeting is:

*Tuesday, November 20.*

- 1:30 p. m. Registration.
- 2:00 p. m. Miscellaneous Business.
- President's Address. The Public Library Board and the Community.
- Symposium: What is expected of the Public Library?

By the public in general. Merle Sidener, Indianapolis.

By the public officer. Judge E. E. Cloe, Noblesville.

By the professional man. Howard Roosa, Evansville.

By the educator. L. N. Hines, Supt., Public Schools, Crawfordsville.

By the librarian. Gertrude Thiebaud, Librarian Public Library, Peru.

By the trustee. Mrs. Elizabeth Claypool Earl, Connorsville.

8:00 p. m. Address. Charles E. Rush, Librarian, Public Library, Indianapolis.

Address. Frederick G. Melcher, Manager, W. K. Stewart Co., Indianapolis.

#### Social Hour.

*Wednesday, November 21.*

9:00 a. m. Business.

9:30 a. m. The Library Trustees Association and the Present Situation. Henry N. Sanborn, Secretary, Public Library Commission.

10:00 a. m. Round Tables.  
Libraries with incomes \$3,000, or over. Leader, Mrs. W. R. Davidson, Evansville.  
Libraries with incomes less than \$3,000. Leader, Mrs. Elva T. Carter, Plainfield.

Rooms may be secured at regular rates at Hotel Severin, the Headquarters.

### THE NEW INDIANAPOLIS LIBRARY BUILDING.

The dedication, on Sunday afternoon, October 7th, of the new building of the Indianapolis Public Library, marks an important event in the library history not only of Indianapolis, but of Indiana. The exercises, held in the library and open-shelf room, were singularly simple and effective. Mr. Joseph H. Keller, president of the Indianapolis School Board, in

opening the program, spoke earnestly of the contrast between the turbulent spirit of the times and the quiet rejoicing that the citizens of Indianapolis could take in the development of one of their greatest institutions of peace.

The address of the day was made by Dr. Arthur E. Bostwick, librarian of the Saint Louis Public Library. As the day was the anniversary of the birth of James Whitcomb Riley, Dr. Bostwick very appropriately spoke of Riley and his appeal to the public. When the poet or the artist uses subjects and media of expression which the public can understand, the reading of poetry and the enjoyment of the other arts becomes widely popularized. Dr. Bostwick, also, clearly set forth the changes of purpose and service that have taken place in our American Public Libraries, and spoke of the modern librarian as a player upon an instrument of music, with his collection of books as his instrument. Without him the collection is cold and dead, but when, with his knowledge of his books and of his public, he plays with his trained skill upon his instrument, his library lives and becomes a stirring power in the community.

Mr. William M. Taylor, Chairman of the library committee, told of the history of the Indianapolis Public Library and of the present building. He was followed by C. C. Zantinger, Architect, of Philadelphia, who after speaking happily of the pleasant relations of the architects, contractors and library board, presented to Mr. Keller a golden key to the building. Mr. Keller turned this key over to the new librarian, Mr. Charles E. Rush, who, with evident feeling, spoke of his joy in the service and his hopes for the future.

The audience of invited guests was comprised of leading citizens of Indianapolis. After the exercises the building was thrown open for the inspection of the invited guests and the general public.

The building, designed by Paul M. Cret of Philadelphia by judges of a competition of leading architects, is one of the most beautiful library buildings in the country. Full description of it will be printed in the Library Journal. Librarian Rush will be glad to welcome Indiana librarians visiting Indianapolis.

INDIANA LIBRARY WAR COUNCIL  
REPORT.

Herbert B. Ehler, district organizer for the Library War Council and Finance Committee of the A.L.A., called a meeting of Library workers at the State House September 4th for the purpose of organizing an Indiana Council. Those invited were Charles E. Rush, Ethel F. McCollough, Mayme C. Snipes, Winifred Ticer, William M. Hepburn, Mrs. Elizabeth Claypool Earl, Henry N. Sanborn, Mrs. Ada L. Bernhart, Mabel A. Wayne, Mrs. Sallie C. Hughes, Virginia A. Tutt, Mary Torrance, Margaret M. Colerick, Annette L. Clark and Mrs. Winifred Johnson, Secretary, State Federation of Clubs, of Bloomington; Mrs. John Smith, Chairman, Library Committee, State Federation of Clubs, Spencer; E. J. Llewellyn, President, Library Trustee Association, New Castle.

The plan of the national body for obtaining funds was outlined and the needs and opportunities of soldiers and sailors for reading explained. Everyone present felt the responsibility that was placed on library workers in asking them to carry out so large a program, but everyone rose to the opportunity each resolving to do the utmost to achieve a successful outcome in Indiana. Louis J. Bailey was elected director when it was found that Mr. Sanborn would not return from his trip on the Pacific Coast in time to take up the work. Work was begun on September 7th in the Commission office as headquarters and with the assistance of the Commission staff. District meetings were held the 12th to 19th as follows: at Lafayette by Mr. Hepburn; at Marion, Ft. Wayne and South Bend by Miss Scott; and at Gary, Indianapolis, Bloomington, New Albany, Evansville, Richmond and Terre Haute by Mr. Bailey. The meetings were generally well attended and the spirit shown serious and earnest. Letters were sent to all librarians and library trustees, to Mayors of cities, and to each clergyman, besides much general correspondence. Suggestion sheets were distributed to give information, help and publicity assistance. The Butler and Jenne Company of Indianapolis gave publicity service to newspapers, articles

being sent to weekly papers, dailies and Indianapolis papers. The greatest general difficulty in conducting the campaign has been in getting workers to collect funds. In most instances people seemed to understand and appreciate the call and were willing to give for the purpose. The rural districts, wherever it was possible to solicit funds, responded very well so that a large percentage of money comes from outside the larger cities.

There has been some confusion in regard to the quota expected. Because of the impossibility of appealing to other than the urban population of the country the quota asked of each community was one dollar from five percent of population. Indiana's share of a million dollar fund on a basis of actual population would be \$24,500; on a basis of five percent \$135,000. Hence the confusion. Any amount over the smaller sum is in excess of the quota.

There were 162 towns on the list of possible working communities. Of these 106 have reported some amount raised and of those so reporting 70 have equalled or exceeded their quota based on the 1910 census. The sums raised for the Ft. Harrison Library fund apply on the general fund. In making the final totals it is necessary to add the amount of that sum.

The amounts reported below are not in all cases final. Some towns are yet to hold their campaign and many are still trying to complete their quota. The amounts given are the latest available. They are as follows:

Alexandria.....	\$79.75
Anderson.....	1,389.65
Angola.....	81.00
Attica.....	189.81
Aurora.....	242.15
Batesville.....	130.00
Bloomfield.....	150.00
Bloomington.....	210.25
Bluffton.....	515.42
Brook.....	90.00
Brownsburg.....	65.00
Cambridge City.....	176.08
Carlisle.....	7.00
Carmel.....	75.00
Carthage.....	65.49
Clinton.....	1,100.00

## LIBRARY OCCURRENT

Coatesville.....	\$106.00	New Harmony.....	\$75.00
Columbia City.....	188.00	Noblesville.....	275.00
Connersville.....	862.00	North Manchester.....	168.00
Covington.....	100.00	Oakland City.....	24.75
Crawfordsville.....	481.80	Orleans.....	13.00
Crown Point.....	200.00	Peru.....	500.00
Culver.....	84.35	Plainfield.....	290.00
Danville.....	140.00	Plymouth.....	118.00
Darlington.....	43.95	Porter.....	7.16
Decatur.....	250.00	Poseyville.....	42.12
Delphi.....	186.86	Princeton.....	366.23
Earl Park.....	30.00	Richmond.....	1,000.00
East Chicago.....	50.00	Roachdale.....	72.80
Elkhart.....	363.10	Rochester.....	78.84
Elwood.....	480.00	Rockport.....	93.40
Evansville.....	5,000.00	Rockville.....	168.80
Fort Wayne.....	3,300.00	Royal Center.....	91.25
Franklin.....	308.83	Rushville.....	245.00
Gary.....	2,000.00	Salem.....	48.85
Goodland.....	65.00	Shelbyville.....	714.86
Greencastle.....	132.00	Sheridan.....	28.00
Greensburg.....	173.15	Shoals.....	55.85
Hartford City.....	300.00	South Bend.....	2,680.00
Hobart.....	110.50	South Whitley.....	106.11
Huntington.....	594.60	Terre Haute.....	47.10
Indianapolis.....	8,000.00	Thornton.....	75.00
Jeffersonville.....	387.71	Tipton.....	117.00
Kentland.....	100.00	Union City.....	162.00
Kewanna.....	60.00	Valparaiso.....	995.00
Kirklin.....	14.00	Vincennes.....	280.00
Knightstown.....	101.20	Wabash.....	100.00
Kokomo.....	550.00	Walton.....	40.00
Lafayette.....	1,100.00	Warsaw.....	2.20
LaGrange.....	369.83	Washington.....	.50
Laporte.....	811.35	Waveland.....	10.00
Lawrenceburg.....	295.00	West Lafayette.....	230.00
Lebanon.....	227.66	Westfield.....	70.00
Ligonier.....	359.00	Westville.....	75.00
Logansport.....	837.00	Whiting.....	325.00
Madison.....	400.00	Winamac.....	65.00
Martinsville.....	326.86	Winchester.....	227.75
Michigan City.....	630.00		
Miller.....	40.00		
Mishawaka.....	625.00	Total.....	\$48,629.65
Mitchell.....	8.00	Fort Harrison Fund.....	1,405.48
Mooresville.....	68.75		
Muncie.....	1,750.00	Whole Total.....	\$50,035.13
New Albany.....	1,225.00	Respectfully submitted,	
Newburgh.....	81.93	LOUIS J. BAILEY,	
New Haven.....	60.00	Director.	

**BOOKS FOR SOLDIERS AT FORT HARRISON.**

In July of this year, the Public Library Commission with the approval of General Edwin Glenn, post commandant, and of Mr. James E. Rogers, of the U. S. War Department National Commission Training Camp Activities, undertook the organization and supervision of a camp library at Fort Benjamin Harrison.

Books and money were collected by the libraries over the state. Each library acted as the collector of books for its community, sorted the books and prepared them for the shelves with supplies purchased from the fund. The books were shipped at government expense to Y. M. C. A. Shack No. 1 at Fort Harrison and were unpacked, examined and shelved by assistants from the Indianapolis Public Library, Indiana State Library, and the Public Library Commission, under the direction of the Public Library Commission staff.

About five thousand well selected books have been sent from over the state. Thirty-five hundred have been shelved in the three Y. M. C. A. shacks at the fort and about fifteen hundred or two thousand have been sent to Hattiesburg, the Indiana National Guard Encampment.

In addition to the contribution of books, about \$1,400 has been raised by the libraries of the state. Some of this money has been spent in supplies, books of plays, poetry, books on the war, etc., subscriptions for several copies of twenty different magazines and for magazine holders.

The libraries have proved very popular and the library rooms at night are filled with soldiers, reading, although entertainments are being held in the big Y. M. C. A. auditorium. An average of seventy-five to one hundred books are given out every day in each shack, making a total circulation of fifteen hundred to two thousand volumes a week. Thus with a working collection of only thirty-five hundred, the library practically turns over every two weeks. Requests are varied from books on chemistry and psychology to the story of the "Birth of a Nation." Many expressions of appreciation of the good books

and magazines have been received from men stationed at the fort.

Although the number of troops has been decreasing, there is every indication that there will be some troops at the fort all winter with increased activity in the spring. At least one of the Y. M. C. A. buildings will be open all winter and the books will be housed there, so that the men will have every opportunity of employing their spare hours in reading.

**LIST OF PERIODICALS PURCHASED FOR FORT HARRISON LIBRARY.**

4 copies American.  
4 copies Atlantic  
4 copies Century.  
4 copies Collier's.  
4 copies Cosmopolitan.  
2 copies Current History.  
4 copies Current Opinion.  
4 copies Harper's  
2 copies Illustrated London News.  
2 copies Ladies Home Journal.  
4 copies Leslie's.  
4 copies Life.  
4 copies Literary Digest.  
4 copies McClure's.  
4 copies Midweek Pictorial.  
2 copies Motor Age.  
4 copies National Geographic.  
2 copies New Republic.  
2 copies Popular Mechanics.  
4 copies Scientific American.  
4 copies Scientific American Supplement.  
4 copies Scribner's.  
4 copies World's Work.  
4 copies Youth's Companion.

**AMOUNT SUBSCRIBED FOR FORT HARRISON FUND.**

Anderson.....	\$40.00
Attica.....	7.00
Bloomington (Ind. Univ.).....	60.00
Bluffton.....	50.00
Boswell.....	6.00
Brook.....	10.00
Cambridge City.....	20.00
Carmel.....	15.00
Carthage.....	6.25
Clinton.....	15.00



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Coatesville.....	\$5.00	W. Lebanon.....	\$10.00
Columbus.....	2.00	Westfield.....	5.00
Connersville.....	12.50	Westville.....	5.00
Corydon.....	5.00	Whiting.....	30.00
Covington.....	5.00	Winimac.....	15.00
Crawfordsville.....	25.00	Worthington.....	6.74
Crown Point.....	30.00		
Culver.....	10.00	Total.....	\$1,405.48
Elkhart.....	36.97		
Elwood.....	20.00		
Evansville.....	150.00		
Frankfort.....	10.00		
Gary.....	150.00		
Hagerstown.....	5.00		
Huntington.....	90.27		
Kewanna.....	10.00		
Knightstown.....	10.00		
Lawrenceburg.....	25.00		
Lebanon.....	25.00		
Liberty.....	10.00		
Martinsville.....	14.50		
Milford.....	5.00		
Monon.....	4.50		
Monticello.....	5.00		
Mt. Vernon.....	10.00		
Noblesville.....	3.00		
North Manchester.....	7.50		
Pendelton.....	15.00		
Peru.....	100.00		
Remington.....	2.35		
Roachdale.....	7.65		
Rochester.....	25.00		
Rockport.....	5.00		
Royal Center.....	5.00		
Salem.....	10.00		
Seymour.....	25.00		
Shelbyville.....	15.00		
Shoals.....	5.00		
Spencer.....	8.50		
Sullivan.....	31.00		
Syracuse.....	10.00		
Tipton.....	10.00		
Union City.....	15.00		
Valparaiso.....	33.95		
Vevay.....	7.50		
Vincennes.....	20.00		
Wabash.....	12.50		
Walton.....	10.00		
Washington.....	12.50		
Waverland.....	32.30		

## EXPENDITURES.

Oct. 4, 1917.	Car-fare to Fort Harrison (Edna Sage, 5 trips).....	\$1.25
Oct. 5, 1917.	Car-fare to Fort Harrison (Maud Venn, 7 trips).....	1.75
Oct. 5, 1917.	Car-fare to Fort Harrison (Hazel Warren, 3 trips).....	.75
Oct. 20, 1917.	Books (W. K. Stewart Co.).....	177.56
Oct. 20, 1917.	Books (W. K. Stewart Co.).....	1.07
Oct. 20, 1917.	Magazines (W. K. Stewart Co.).....	274.00
Oct. 20, 1917.	Magazines (W. K. Stewart Co.).....	4.95
Oct. 20, 1917.	Supplies (Library bureau).....	90.74
Oct. 20, 1917.	Oak tray with guides (Library bureau).....	1.50
Oct. 20, 1917.	Magazine covers (Gaylord Bros.).....	27.13
Oct. 20, 1917.	Shelf label holders (Democrat Printing Co.).....	6.93
	Total.....	\$587.63

## U. S. FOOD ADMINISTRATION AND THE LIBRARY.

Ever since the opening of the war, the importance of food production and conservation has been emphasized by every organ of publicity. It was not until less than two months ago, however, that the U. S. Food Administration recognized the public library as an important educational agent and a means of distribution. At that time, the Food Administrator in each state was requested to appoint a Library Publicity Director for his state. Dr. H. E. Barnard, Food Administrator

for Indiana appointed Henry N. Sanborn, Secretary of the Library Commission as Publicity Director for Indiana. The libraries, themselves, however, were not in general so slow as the Food Administration to see their opportunity, and many of them have been doing valuable service in this movement. It is very likely, nevertheless, that this recent action of the Food Administration will help to co-ordinate the activities of the various libraries and to enable the Food Administration to know what libraries are doing. For this result, the Library Publicity Director, having been asked to obtain monthly reports from libraries, will prepare a monthly report form to be sent to him, from which he can report to Washington of the work being done. A careful filling out and sending of these reports will do more than anything else to convince the government of the value of public libraries.

The general plan suggested by the Food Administration for Library Publicity, was sent to the libraries in a circular letter, and is printed on page 7 of the first number of Food: News Notes for Public Libraries, which is mailed direct to all the libraries.

These activities are such legitimate library work that no librarian need feel that it is interfering in anyway with the regular service of the library. The securing of signatures on the Food pledge cards, which was the immediate request of the Food Administration was not so properly library work, but so essential that the librarian did well to help in this work within the walls of her library. So many other organizations were soliciting pledges that it was not necessary for the librarian to approach others than those who come to the library. With pledge cards at the loan desk and a supply of "outfits" for distribution to those who sign pledges, the librarian did her share.

The Publicity Director has supplied the U. S. Food Administration and the Extension Divisions of Purdue and Indiana University with lists of libraries of Indiana. Any librarian not receiving material from these sources, should write for it.

The following notice was received from Miss Claribel R. Barnett, librarian for the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

#### **Librarians and the Food Campaign.**

The U. S. Department of Agriculture has issued for wide distribution the following one and two-page leaflets: Ten suggestions for milk consumers; The food value of American cheese; Buttermilk, a food drink; Ways to use cottage cheese; Cottage cheese—an inexpensive meat substitute; Milk as a food; How to use skim milk—ways in which this nutritious food material may be used to advantage in cookery. Libraries wishing to aid in the distribution of these leaflets should apply for copies to the Dairy Division, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C., stating the number of each desired.

The Food Administration, realizing that the close co-operation of libraries with the Administration can only be expected when they are thoroughly informed as to ways in which they are supposed to co-operate, has recently decided to issue a special library bulletin called "Food News Notes for Libraries," to be sent monthly to the libraries of the United States. This bulletin will point out the ideas the Food Administration wishes stressed at any particular time, will suggest publicity measures, and will also contain bibliographical lists. The first number has just been issued and distributed. To assist in carrying out the plan the Administration has sent a letter to the Federal Food Administrators in the various states asking their co-operation in the work. The letter suggests that each State Federal Food Administrator ask one of the leading libraries of his state to lend to the Food Administration the services of a member of the staff without loss of salary. This library worker is to be known as the Library Publicity Director or the state.

The letter also outlines a general plan for this library publicity. The Food Administration has asked Miss Edith Guerrier of the Boston Public Library to act as the general executive in editing the bulletin of information for libraries and in making the plan effective.

The fact that this extension work with libraries has been undertaken by the Food Administration has an important bearing on the plans of the Food Information Committee. It will not now be necessary or advisable for the committee to continue certain undertakings which had been planned—namely, the preparation of lists of publications on food, the preparation of a library poster bearing on the food campaign, and other publicity measures. In future, the committee, in accordance with the request of Miss Guerrier, will act as an advisory board in co-operation with her work.

#### LIBRARIES AND THE WAR.

The times are a challenge to the Public Libraries of America. For years librarians have claimed that the public library is the only public institution that can reach and serve all the people. Though they have not denied the correctness of the popular conception that the chief mission of the public library is to supply wholesome recreation for the public, they have asserted that this mission though perhaps necessarily the most noticeable, is not the most important or effective activity of the library. Librarians, themselves, no longer need to be convinced that to the library belongs a part in every educational, economic and social movement. It is the public that must be convinced that the library is an "integral part of public education" and that it is logical and present help in time of trouble.

The participation of the U. S. in the present war has created an unprecedented opportunity for the library to prove its assertion and take its rightful place in the community.

A state of war, to use Cleveland's over-ridden phrase, brings us face to face with a condition and not a theory. Especially does it show up the conditions of peace. It throws into relief national characteristics that we were only partly conscious of before. It makes certain some conditions we hoped for, and it confirms the existence of some conditions we hoped did not exist. It has made us understand ourselves as we have not done. Since

war was declared, the Atlantic Coast understands the Middle West better. The enlistments showed that shouting for war in New York and Boston did not, as these cities thought, mean greater patriotism than did an honest desire to keep out of war. War has forced us to believe that much of capital and much of labor and many farmers and some of all classes are using the war as a means of personal gain, not as an opportunity for sacrifice in a righteous cause. Although we applaud President Wilson's emphasis on "humanity", "liberty", and "democracy", too many of us seem to be practising this creed as we do our Christian ethics. We use both on occasion but not in the business of living.

And so, it would seem the war is giving us librarians an opportunity of finding out just where we stand. Does the position we claim for ourselves belong to us? What does the public really think of us?

To begin with, we may ask ourselves, with some hope of seeing the truth, are librarians leaders or followers? Can libraries ever be leaders?

In the sense of being initiators of thought and action, public libraries as institutions can never be and never should attempt to be leaders. Individual librarians by reason of mentality and personality, may be leaders of thought in their community or in the world at large, but they are so as individuals, not as librarians. Such a librarian will inevitably make his library assume some of the semblances of leadership; but these characteristics will be acquired and not native. Such librarians will always be few, but there seems no reason why the rest of us should abandon our profession in discouragement. To be successful librarians, we need not be original thinkers or intellectual leaders.

In another sense, librarians are very necessarily leaders, and in so far as they fail to be leaders in this other sense, they fail to be properly useful to their communities. To use a military metaphor, although we cannot be the generals of thought and progress, we may be lieutenants worthy of our commissions. It has been said of Theodore Roosevelt that he is not a leader of men, in this larger sense,



but he is phenomenally successful in putting his ear to the ground and then, aware of what is coming, falling in at the head of the procession. A certain Mr. Bryan was wont to complain that Roosevelt stole his thunder.

In this sense, a library is very really a leader. A librarian must keep ahead of the procession. He must hear what is coming and be prepared and he must smooth the path and prepare the way. He must be on the watch for every honest movement to aid the economic, spiritual, or social advance of mankind. In such service, the library is superior to the schools, but inferior to the press. The schools, even including the colleges, reach a limited part of the population and, furthermore, a part that is yet too young to have much influence in shaping public opinion. The library, on the other hand, should reach all the inhabitants. Certainly it reaches a part of the adult population untouched by the schools. The periodical press is unquestionably the most potent agent for popular education. The library cannot expect to have the wide reach of the periodical. Even as a distributor of periodical literature it is, and probably always will be, almost negligible. But periodical literature is likely to leave in the mind of the general reader only a scrappy unrelated impression. The librarian can gather scattering material and guide the reader through this periodical literature as no one else can. Furthermore, although the library reaches but few compared with the periodicals, it undoubtedly reaches many of those most given to thought and most likely to spread ideas.

When the librarian, however, attempts to prepare the field, he is beset by at least two very real difficulties, neutrality and personal prejudice.

The question of neutrality is a difficult one. If it is possible to define neutrality on any question, to the satisfaction of any two persons, libraries should most emphatically be neutral. For the librarian to forsee the trend of opinion and be prepared does not mean that he should be partisan. Any question important enough to claim the attention of the librarian, has literature on both sides, and

for the librarian to collect or push the literature of the other side and suppress the literature of the other side is a violation of neutrality, and an abuse of public office.

At the Berkeley Conference of the A. L. A., Dr. Bowerman read a paper which was in effect a plea for libraries to spread the peace propaganda. The discussion that followed showed the general sentiment of those librarians present to be that the library as a public institution could not afford to push one side of a still debatable subject. That same year at the summer conference at Madison, Wisconsin, that most delightfully inspiring and most militant of librarians, Miss Stearns, displayed a peace flag and urged every librarian present to have a peace flag in the library and to aid the movement. No one, I suppose, not even the king of the Prussians, would desire anything but perpetual peace, if he thought it possible, or at least expedient. In spite of the horrors of this war and the universal prayer that it may be the last war, many honestly, though regretfully, believe that war is a necessary evil and that the results are worth the price. No matter what the librarian's personal attitude may be, it was his duty to have the literature of both sides, in the hope that the right would win without his official support. I say, it was his duty, because I am speaking of the situation before we, ourselves, were at war. Does the fact, then, that we are in war, make our neutral position untenable? I think not. One can be neutral only in cases where there is room for argument. Before war was declared we could argue the necessity of war and the wisdom of our entering the fight. Now that we have cast our lot with the allies, the opinion of the majority is that there is no room for discussion as to whether we fight until our ends are accomplished. Accordingly, it is probably as wise as it is certainly loyal, to suppress literature of a pro-German nature or with a purpose to bring about a premature peace. If such literature were the honest opinion of truly patriotic citizens who felt it their duty and their right to criticize the government, the issue would not be so clear, but so much of such writing is the deliberate effort of foreign enemies or disloyal

Americans, that the library is in danger of harboring traitors and alien enemies and giving comfort to the enemy. Certainly the duty of public institutions is to aid the popularly accepted cause of the nation.

But although it is the duty of the library to prevent the circulation of literature against the present war, it is just as emphatically the duty of the library to collect and preserve all literature of the war, no matter how treasonable, or how pro-German. The library is also a store-house of printed matter and such manuscript material as letters and diaries, and often in the small community it is the only preserver of historical sources. When the war is over, it will be of general interest and great historical importance to have a record of the opinions and activities of all classes in every nation, state, and community. The library will have failed in its duty if it cannot produce the written evidence of these present opinions. Naturally the small library will not try to collect much material that does not effect it nearly, but it should collect all such local material and it should preserve and not destroy such propaganda as it receives. This is not a violation of neutrality, but a historical and even patriotic duty.

Neither does such an attitude preclude the acceptance and distribution of literature on the merits of peace and war in general, or even, I would venture, upon the undesirable conditions, economic and diplomatic, which have brought the world to its present pass. For example, no one should object to the article in the October 'Atlantic' by Frederic C. Howe on 'Financial Imperialism', which shows how the diplomatic principle that the flag follows the investor has to a great degree been the cause of the present conflict, and that war is really caused by the selfishness of capital trying to obtain fields for profitable investment and protection for their foreign holdings. Weyle's 'American World Policies' shows the same economic causes for war. Bertrand Russell's books show the fatuity of war. These books are arguments for peace and will help to educate us so that we may be able after the war to correct our mistakes and plan a future where there shall be no war. No librarian that has

these books on the shelves is disloyal or anything but neutral.

In various other ways, the war has shown that our libraries do not, in the judgment of the public, occupy the important place we had hoped.

To begin with, the public generally and the many organizations undertaking one kind of war work and another, did not as a matter of course turn to the library for help. Their attention had to be called to the possibilities of library assistance in a way that would not have been necessary if libraries had come into their own. The Y. M. C. A. certainly did not realize at first the possibilities of the library as an agent for collecting books and even yet in certain localities it shows a distrust of the library's being able to do this work. Only within a few weeks has the Food Administration seemed to be conscious of the usefulness of libraries, for it has just appointed library publicity directors in the states to co-ordinate and stimulate the work of the libraries. The Red Cross has made use of our libraries, but in a way that indicates their appreciation of the library chiefly as a possible workshop and as a collection of available assistants for clerical work or membership boosters. There are, of course, individual libraries that have proved themselves to have attained their rightful place.

This failure to realize the peculiar service that libraries and librarians can render and the tendency to treat them as so many possible workers in other work than library work, has been shared by not a few librarians. At the beginning of the war there seemed to be a real need of a warning to librarians, especially in the smaller towns, not to forget that they were probably the only persons in town who could render the peculiar library services, and that they should not neglect the library service to do the things that many other women could do as well. A librarian owes all herself to her community in a service that no one else can render. If she is making the best of her opportunities, she has no time for much extra-library service.

In still another way the public seems in certain places to have failed to understand the

value of the library. The cutting down of the library income is a good indication that the public still regards the library as a luxury—a commendable one to-be-sure, but not essential in times of economy. Much has been said in print about this unfortunate tendency. The library can change this policy only by proving itself of assistance in every war activity. Although there have been noticeable instances of this cutting of library appropriations, they have been for the most part isolated. It is also questionable whether these cuts have been entirely due to war conditions. For the last few years we have heard much about the dangers threatening the library appropriation. Taxes generally are increasing and more and more it becomes necessary for each tax-supported institution to convince taxing boards of the validity of their claims. The war has increased taxation, and libraries which have not made a deep impression on their communities must suffer. It is to be expected, also, that with political conditions in many of our cities as corrupt as they still are, educational institutions are most liable to be the first to suffer at the hands of city councils composed of politicians. Personally, I minimize the effect of the war so far on library appropriations, for I can point to more increased library incomes in my own state than decreased ones.

The supreme test that the war has compelled nearly every institution and every business in the country to undergo, is the necessity of adaptation to new conditions. When the war began, we tried to slap each other on the back and in a loud and cheery voice sing out "Business as usual", but we soon found that no business could go on as usual. The producer of luxuries found some of his profits disappearing and the producer and dealer in necessities found an irresistible opportunity to make immense profits. New business methods in the shape of government control and regulation had to be applied to the maker of immense profits so as to protect the public.

Nothing could speak better for the live condition of our libraries and the progressiveness of our librarians than the way they have adapted themselves to the new conditions.

The moment war was declared, libraries everywhere were taking thought of how they could meet the changed conditions. Individuals did not wait for suggestions from their state commissions or for the A. L. A. to act at Louisville, but they began at once to meet the needs they saw. If the war has shown that the public does not appreciate the potentialities of the library, it is also shown that the libraries themselves realize their opportunities. This is the most encouraging aspect of our present situation.

So far, we have been considering war as a challenge to the public library, but it is also a supreme opportunity. To be put to the test, and to be proven worthy, is in itself perhaps the greatest opportunity.

A more tangible opportunity, however, and one which cannot fail to have a tremendous beneficial effect upon the future of all libraries, even those which are not now meeting the test, is the publicity which libraries are getting. One organization after another is finding out the service the library can render, and the result will be new patrons demanding the kind of service libraries have been yearning to give. The recent \$1,000,000 campaign has been a good thing for the soldiers, but it has been even more valuable to our public libraries. If out of pure selfishness we had tried to find a way to advertise ourselves, we could not probably have hit upon a better way.

With all the unusual service which the library can render its patrons, perhaps the most valuable assistance it can give is to keep the spirit of the community as near normal as possible. If we remain at war there will be much greater sorrows to suffer than those caused by mere parting. Books have always proved one of the best of consolers, and the library should be provided with and should know these books. Other more exciting forms of recreation do not have the same effect as does reading.

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#### NEW COUNTY LIBRARIES.

The county library law which was passed by the recent general assembly, went into effect July 1st. Before September 1st, four counties had taken advantage of the law and taken

steps to organize their county libraries. Switzerland County through the action of the board of the Vevay Public Library and the county commissioners seems to have the distinction of being the first county to make use of the new county library law. The public library at Liberty was a close second in persuading its county commissioners to levy a library tax. The other two counties to adopt the county system were both counties in which there has never been a free public library. Scott County has for some years had a county library fund for the purchase of books, but has never been able to maintain a county library under the old law. North Vernon has for some years been one of the largest towns in the state without a public library but the action of the county commissioners of Jennings County will establish a library at North Vernon.

Several other counties made efforts to establish county library systems, notably Allen, Clinton, and Vigo Counties, but action was postponed until another year. In face of probable increased taxation on account of the war, Indiana seems to have made a good record by establishing four county libraries in the first two months in which the county law had been operating.

#### TOWNSHIP EXTENSION.

With the passage of the county library law, it was thought possible that the gaining of support from single townships by neighboring libraries might be interrupted, but such has not proved to be the case. An incomplete report shows that with the ten new libraries added since the last report of the Commission, and with the twenty-three townships added through the establishment of the four County Libraries, about sixty new townships are now receiving service from their local libraries. Bloomington has gained Richland, and now serves four townships; a deposit station will be opened immediately at Ellettsville. Auburn, Crawfordsville and Ligonier are now supported by their own townships; Mentone, whose petitions in two townships failed last year, gained both this year, and is now in a

fair way to secure a suitable building; they are already serving their rural schools. Liberty has joined Monon Township in support of the Monon library. Fowler is now serving five townships—four outside its own. Attica, Garrett, Goshen, Greenwood, La-Grange, Plainfield and Shelbyville are a few of the libraries now receiving the first tax money from townships voting support last fall.

Plainfield's example in house-to-house delivery has been followed by Gas City, which is now building an auto book-wagon, for which its township voted the maximum tax in September. Attica served two townships in this way during the summer, and will continue it in Logan, during the winter; and Rockport also used this method during the summer months, but will rely on school deposit stations this winter, as the roads make auto delivery impracticable in cold weather. Syracuse has begun work with the rural schools, and Shelbyville is also sending out its first school deposits. All together we have cause to congratulate ourselves at the progress of this part of our work, especially in these times of increasing taxation and growing economy.

#### BOOK WAGONS.

The book wagon is steadily increasing in popularity in the state. Two libraries that are planning house-to-house delivery in their townships for the coming year are the libraries at Gas City and Attica.

Gas City expects to have an automobile equipped for the purpose by November first, and plans to make trips once a week visiting every house in Davis Township once every two weeks.

#### DISTRICT MEETINGS.

##### District A.

On Wednesday, June 6th, District A held its Spring session at the Hammond Public Library, with eighteen library workers present representing eleven different libraries.

Beginning the day at eleven o'clock three automobiles took the visitors to the Manual

Training High School, where a Branch Library will be opened about Sept. 1st, and from there to the Hammond Country Club, to a delightful luncheon served at 12:30.

At 1:30 o'clock the members were shown through the W. B. Conkey Publishing Co. (largest in the world), after which all returned to the Library to the afternoon session, where library subjects were discussed, particularly the keeping of Branch and Station statistics at the main Library, also school statistics and the yearly inventory. Miss Gottlieb, of Gary, lead the discussion on statistic forms and methods. Mrs. Sawyer, Librarian of the Hammond Public Library, explained and compared the Hammond system of keeping statistics.

One of the most interesting impromptu topics was the different ways the libraries are "doing their bit" for the Red Cross and soldier's encampments.

The entire session proved to be a most profitable and enjoyable one.

ELIZABETH ROCKWELL,  
*Secretary.*

#### PUBLICATIONS.

Wilson, Martha. School library management. St. Paul, Minnesota, Department of Education, 1917. 78p. Pam. Free.

A very helpful manual covering a field not before satisfactorily treated. All phases of the school library work, both administrative and technical, are taken up, some of its contents being directions for the choice and equipment of library rooms, advice on the selection of books and periodicals, lists of supplies with addresses of supply houses, sample forms for the technical work, and brief outlines for teaching the use of the library to different classes of students. A good index adds to the usefulness of the pamphlet.

#### Dune Park.

The Department of Interior has issued a report on The National Dunes Park Project edited by Stephen Mather. It gives the records of a hearing held in Chicago with

maps and Mr. Mather's recommendations. It may be obtained free from the Secretary.

Through the courtesy of the Gary Departmental Club the Gary Public Library has for free distribution a number of copies on the Dune Park edition of the Gary Evening Post containing many articles on the Dunes. Copies sent on request.

#### DEDICATIONS.

##### Atlanta.

The new Carnegie Library building for Atlanta and Jackson Township was opened with formal exercises on the afternoon of Oct. 12. Newton Rhoads, President of the Library Board, presided and in his brief remarks traced the history of the organization of this library. Demarchus C. Brown, Librarian of the Indiana State Library, delivered the principal address on the proper use of a library. There were also short addresses by the local ministers and teachers in the township schools, whose pupils furnished the closing exercises. Local musicians provided vocal and instrumental music throughout the program. The library already has 1,800 volumes on its shelves, and is prepared to give the best of service to its patrons.

##### Brookston.

Brookston and Prairie Township dedicated their new Carnegie building with exercises and a reception on the evening of Oct. 6. Local musicians furnished selections on violin and piano for the program, at which J. A. Metzger, President of the Board, presided. The principal address was given by Henry N. Sanborn of Indianapolis, Secretary of the Public Library Commission, who pointed out the many directions in which this library, if properly used, could benefit the community.

##### Oxford.

Oxford and Oak Grove Township dedicated their Carnegie Library building on Oct. 6, with formal exercises in the afternoon and a reception at night. William McConnell presided at the afternoon exercises, which consisted of brief remarks by citizens, music by



the Male Quartette and by the Twentieth Century Ladies' Quartette, and an address by Mr. Sanborn of the Public Library Commission. The building is largely the product of local effort, both architect and contractor being from Oxford, and most of the furnishings, except that of the main room, having been bought in town. It stands on the corner of the public square, is of buff brick with light stone trimmings and with interior finish of dark oak. The Library Bureau furniture of the main floor is of light oak. In the basement, which is entered from the main room and also from the street level, is a good auditorium, workrooms and a well-furnished restroom for township use. The library opens with an excellent collection of books from gifts and purchases, which will be added to as rapidly as possible to satisfy the demands of its patrons, who have already registered as borrowers in large numbers.

#### **Notre Dame.**

During the celebration of the Diamond Jubilee of Notre Dame University in June, the beautiful new library building was dedicated with impressive ceremonies. The building, which cost \$250,000, was designed by Edmund L. Tilton of New York.

#### **Tell City.**

On Monday evening, Oct. 1, the new \$10,000 Carnegie building was formally dedicated with exercises and a reception to the public, both largely attended. Herbert L. Patrick, President of the School Board, presented the building to the city, and Mayor Heinze accepted it in a brief speech. Both gave much of the credit for the successful completion of the work to J. M. Kreisle of the Board, whose hobby has always been the securing of such a building for his town. Henry N. Sanborn of the Indiana Public Library Commission, gave the principal address, emphasizing the advantages open to a community through the wide use of its library. The invocation was by the Rev. Theodore Schlundt of the Evangelical Church, whose male quartette furnished the music for the occasion.

The building of red tapestry brick and English Gothic design stands in a conspicuous

position on the hill to the east of the town adjoining the High School building. The main entrance is terraced and against its high wall, vines and flowers are being planted. From the tiled vestibule, a beautiful staircase of Tennessee marble leads to the main room above, which is finished in fumed oak, and to the auditorium below, which may also be entered by a door from the street level next the school. Much of the work in the building has been done by local workmen, especially those from the furniture factories, so that the community as a whole feels much pride in the results.

#### **NEW BUILDINGS.**

**Bloomington.**—The furniture has been bought for the new \$31,000 Carnegie building, which the contractor, George A. Weaver of Indianapolis, is rapidly pushing to completion.

**Brownstown.**—The cornerstone of the new Carnegie library building was laid with appropriate exercises on the afternoon of Sept. 16. These included an invocation by the Rev. Mr. Emery, a biographical sketch of Andrew Carnegie by H. Z. Ryneason, Superintendent of Schools, and the singing of America by the pupils of the schools and audience. In the box imbedded in the stone were placed copies of the local papers, lists of the officials and contractors in charge of the building, of the pupils of the schools, of the veterans of the past wars of the nation who have made Brownstown their home, and of the boys who have gone from there to the present war, these latter wrapped in a silk flag, the gift of Mrs. Florence Webb. Work is progressing rapidly on the building.

**Corydon.**—Through the generosity of the Corydon citizens the Library Board has been able to provide for future growth by the purchase of the lot adjoining the library property on the South.

**Flora.**—The contract for the \$10,000 Carnegie building has been let, and work begun. The architect is W. B. Parker of Indianapolis, and it is hoped to have the building ready for use early in the year.

**Fortville.**—Books are being ordered for the Carnegie library, and the work being rushed, in the hope of dedicating the building before Christmas.

**Gary.**—Work on the new \$25,000 Carnegie branch building at 15th Avenue and Madison Street is progressing rapidly and the contractor John Gerometta, expects to have it ready for opening early in the year. A. F. Wicks of Gary is the architect.

The Miller Branch library has recently been moved to attractive quarters in the new business block on Lake Avenue. In this desirable location the branch is expected to increase greatly its already large patronage.

**Grandview.**—Grandview town and Hammond Township have voted levies for the support of a public library and the library board has been appointed and organized. A most desirable site has been purchased and plans are now being examined for the building, to which the Carnegie Corporation has promised a gift of \$8,000.

**Indianapolis.**—With the opening of the new main building of the Public Library, the old library building at Meridian and Ohio Streets has been converted into a branch for business and professional men. Books and magazines on every phase of business activity will be available, and later the branch hopes to open reading courses in advertising, salesmanship and other commercial subjects.

**Lagrange.**—Isaac Miller of Goshen has secured the contract for the \$12,500 Carnegie building, of which A. M. Straus of Fort Wayne is architect, and has already started the work.

**Milford.**—Excavating has begun for the \$10,000 Carnegie building which is to serve Van Buren and Jefferson Townships. Samuel A. Craig of Huntington is the architect.

**Monterey.**—Mr. Craig has also been engaged as architect of the \$5,000 building for Monterey and Tippecanoe Township.

**New Carlisle.**—New Carlisle and Olive Township have established a library and obtained a grant from the Carnegie Corporation of \$9,000.

**Owensville.**—The books at the library are being organized and the library will soon be opened to the public.

**Paoli.**—Norman H. Hill of Indianapolis have been selected as architects of the \$8,000 building for Paoli town and township. This selection is particularly pleasing to the community, as Mr. Hill is a native of Orange County.

**Pierceton.**—The electric wiring has been done on the building, and work is nearing a finish.

**Rising Sun.**—The new Carnegie building, of which W. B. Parker of Indianapolis is the architect, is to be opened during November.

**Roann.**—The new Carnegie building is so near completion that the board is ordering new books and planning to open the library very soon.

**Rockport.**—The library board has accepted the Carnegie gift of \$17,000 to the town and Ohio Township, and has purchased a most desirable lot for the building.

**Vincennes.**—The plans for the \$35,000 Public Library building as drawn by J. B. Bayard, architect, of Vincennes, have been accepted by the Carnegie Corporation and the contract let to T. F. Willis of Vincennes.

**Warren.**—The Public Library Board has purchased an excellent site for the \$10,000 building offered by the Carnegie Corporation to the town and Salamonie Township.

**Westfield.**—The Carnegie Corporation has given the Public Library \$4,000 with which to improve the present building, which was the first erected in Hamilton County.

**Worthington.**—J. M. Dyer & Son, local contractors, have been given the contract for the \$10,000 Carnegie Library building, and are rapidly completing the work. W. B. Parker of Indianapolis is the architect.

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#### NEWS FROM THE LIBRARIES.

**Elkhart.**—New shelving has been installed in the lecture room in the basement, where the less used books may be placed, thus relieving the congestion on the shelves of the main library room.

**Evansville.**—During the summer, a story hour was held at the weekly clinic of the Babies' Milk Fund association, held at the

Bosse Field stadium. This was for the benefit of the many children, who accompanied parents who brought their sick babies to the clinic and was utilized also for the distribution of reading matter as from the main library.

At the Coliseum business branch are a number of novels printed in shorthand, representing various systems. These will be used by the classes in the commercial courses as supplementary practice material for transcription.

**Fort Wayne.**—Two new branches are to be opened at Lakeside and South Wayne, and deposit stations also established in several downtown stores under the direction of Miss Eunice Henley.

During August the library held an exhibit of vegetables and fruit canned by the Cold pack process at the demonstrations by the economics division of the National Food Relief Committee. This was accompanied by the distribution of leaflets and bulletins on canning and drying.

This winter, formal story-hours at the main library are to be replaced by reading aloud to informal groups of children whenever the need seems to arise. Formal story-hours will be held instead at the branch libraries.

**Gary.**—The Public Library has issued the 3d annual edition of their bibliography on the Gary School System. It covers 36 pages and embraces books, articles in magazines and newspapers, extracts from reports of visiting missions, and articles, letters and addresses of Superintendent Wirt. Copies may be had from the library or from the clerk of the Gary Board of education.

**Gas City.**—The librarian is trying the experiment of holding the children responsible for the order of the shelves in their department and reports that she is finding the effort a great success.

**Hammond.**—The new branch library has been opened in the Industrial High School, with Miss Grace Kingwill in charge. It contains some thousand volumes of all sorts, is open every week day from nine to five, and is designed to serve the residents of the South

Side, who find it impossible to make the long trip downtown to use the main library.

**Kendallville.**—During July, a beautiful display of original illustrations of books was held in the library. L. J. Keller of the Library Board secured this exhibit from the Bobbs-Merrill Publishing Company of Indianapolis, which was accompanied by a collection of the books illustrated.

**Lawrenceburg.**—New deposit stations have been established in the telephone exchange in Guilford and in the Gibson store at Bright.

The trustee of Miller Township gave his teachers a day off from school duties which was spent in the library gaining familiarity with its service and resources. Lists of books desired for each school were made out, the teachers instructed in the care of deposits sent their schools, and a general explanation given of the organization and shelving of the books in the main library.

**Milroy.**—A library will be established in the new building of the K. of P.

**South Bend.**—The High School library has been placed under the management of the Public Library, which has installed a fine collection of books and assigned Miss Miller, formerly of the Children's department, to this branch.

**North Liberty.**—A campaign has been begun for the establishment of a public library here, under the auspices of the Howland Library Commission. For the present it will be on the subscription basis.

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#### PERSONALS.

Miss Wintress Brennan of Ogden, Illinois, has been appointed an assistant in the Gary Public Library.

Miss Hazel Bungard, recently a member of the staff of the Emeline Fairbanks Public Library at Terre Haute, has been made an assistant in the Public Library at South Bend.

Miss Irene Butler has been appointed second assistant in the Logansport Public Library.

Miss Annie F. Carney, a member of the Jennings County Library Board, died recently at her home in Vernon.

Mrs. Ida Ewing, for twelve years a member of the Greensburg Library Board, has been appointed assistant in the library to succeed Mrs. Margaret Bussell, who resigned recently.

Miss Mabel Grimes is the new assistant at the Huntington Public Library.

Miss Miriam Krom, Librarian of the Vevay Public Library, was married in September to Mr. Mead Platt Creath of Vevay. Mrs. Creath, who was a member of the class of 1916 in the Commission Summer School, will retain her position as librarian while her husband goes to training camp at Louisville.

Miss Eva Lighty has been appointed librarian of the Williamsport Public Library in place of Miss Helen Boyd who resigned to take up school work in Danville.

Miss Minnie McKee and Miss Mardell Chunn have been accepted as apprentices in the Emeline Fairbanks Public Library in Terre Haute. Miss McKee was teacher of music in Merom College last year, and Miss Chunn is a graduate of the Terre Haute Normal.

Miss Beatrice F. Margolies of Cleveland has been made second assistant in the Elkhart Public Library, in place of Miss Louise Jenner, who resigned last Spring. Miss Margolies is a graduate of Western Reserve Library School at Cleveland, and has had previous experience in the public libraries of Lakewood, Ohio, of Cleveland, and of Indiana University. She will have charge of the cataloguing.

Miss Emma Outhouse, assistant cataloguer in the Evansville Public Library, died on September 6th of acute typhoid. Though a member of the staff but a year, she had made a place for herself both personally and professionally that it will be difficult to fill.

Mrs. Kate G. Poulson has been reappointed librarian for the Greenfield Public Library. In recognition of the increased work caused by the beginning of township work, this appointment carries a substantial increase in salary.

Miss Elizabeth Smith of Door Village has been made an assistant in the Laporte Public Library.

Miss Edith Stanbrough is acting as part-time assistant in the Westfield Public Library.

Mrs. Georgia Stockslager has succeeded Mrs. Lulu B. Reising as librarian of the Corydon Public Library.

Miss Genevieve Twells of Logansport, who has been serving as apprentice this summer in the Peru Public Library, has gone to Madison, Wis., to enter the Library School of the University of Wisconsin.

Miss Grace Stingly, Librarian of the Rochester Public Library, has a year's leave of absence to attend the Library School of the University of Wisconsin. Miss Anna Seaman is acting as librarian in her absence.

Miss Margaret Wade has a year's leave of absence from her position as librarian at Pendleton, and will attend the University of Wisconsin Library School. Miss Edna Tanke, who had charge of the first library in Pendleton has been appointed assistant in the Public Library during Miss Wade's absence.

Miss Esther McNitt has returned to her position in the Historical department of the State Library after a year's leave of absence during which she attended the New York State Library School at Albany.

Miss Esther Johnson of Logansport, who has been for some time in charge of the circulation department of the Seward Park Branch of the New York Public Library, has recently been promoted to be head of this branch, with a staff of thirty members.

Miss Kathryn Sharp has resigned from the order department of the Gary Public Library to become first assistant at the Lawrenceville branch of the Pittsburgh Public Library.

Miss Mabel Miller, formerly in the Children's room of the South Bend Public Library, will take charge of the High School Library in November.

Miss Marcia Furness has resigned her position as assistant cataloguer in the Indiana State Library to become head of the Loan department in the Indianapolis Public Library.

Miss Ethel Clelland, formerly of the Indiana Legislative Reference department, on Oct. 1, assumed the librarianship of the newly established Business branch of the Indianapolis branch of the Indianapolis Public Library.

Miss Marguerite Lewis has been appointed as assistant in the Historical department of the State Library.

Miss Ruth Helleckson, who assisted in the Reference department of the State Library last year, has accepted a position as teacher of English in the Michigan Agricultural College, and left for her new position the middle of October.

#### MINUTES OF THE I. L. A. MEETING, OCTOBER 17-18, 1917.

The 26th annual meeting of the Indiana Library Association opened in Fort Wayne, Wednesday, October 17th, 1917, at 2:30 p. m. in the Assembly Room of the Public Library with 130 members attending. The address of welcome was made by Mr. W. H. Shambaugh, the treasurer of the Fort Wayne School Board. Mr. Shambaugh congratulated Fort Wayne on having the honor of being the meeting place of an organization which is as important factor in the operation of libraries as libraries are in the education of Indiana and said that Fort Wayne enjoyed not only the coming of the librarians but their departure because in going they would add to the fame and reputation of the city.

The President, Miss Snipes, followed this with her address in which she told something of the work of the Indiana Library Association in the past. The Association was born of a deeply felt need in 1891 and has promoted the continual growth, advancement and improvement of library conditions ever since, numbering among its projects the creation of the Public Library Commission, the plan for dividing the state into districts, the appointment of a committee to investigate the salaries, qualification and certification of librarians throughout the state, the appointment of the Library War Council, to serve as long as there is need for this kind of service, and many others along varied lines. Miss Snipes felt that while the Association had come together with the same feeling of fellowship and with the same high ideals, there was a more serious purpose, for the influence of the library in this new capacity for war service

cannot be overestimated. The President advocated a systematic membership campaign as the Association now numbers 182 members out of a vastly greatly possible number. She thought that it was the duty of every library in the state to join as an institution as well as individually—the Association reflecting the spirit of the librarians and of the times and what was done today must play a part in the library betterment of tomorrow.

Mr. R. R. Bowker, editor of the Library Journal, then gave a most delightful talk before the Association on "Library and literary folk of the past generation." Mr. Bowker said that he was charmed to be in Indiana, a banner library state, enjoying distinction in the number and quality of their Carnegie libraries, in the fact that no other state has brought trustees into their annual meeting, and also in that the Indiana Library Commission enjoys a position second to no other. He then began a series of delightful reminiscences, full of pathos and humor, of people prominent in literary and library circles of the past, William Cullen Bryant, James Russell Lowell, George William Curtis, Charles Eliot Norton, Mark Twain, Lady Ritchie, formerly Miss Anne Thackeray, Thomas Bailey Aldrich, Thomas Hardy, Melvil Dewey, Dr. Poole, Justin Winsor, Charles A. Cutter and many others. He carried his listeners with him to the first meeting of librarians held in 1853 which was the forerunner of the American Library Association, although the latter was not organized until 1876, the first meeting being attended by one hundred men and three ladies, who were so timid that they made Dr. Poole their spokesman and he continued in this capacity for some time, although no one is needed to perform this duty now. Mr. Bowker told of the plan of Melvil Dewey in 1886 to organize a library school to which women might be admitted, which so startled the trustees that the school was not opened until January 1st, 1887, the first class including Miss Mary Plummer. He brought Charles A. Cutter before his audience not only as one of the ablest and most learned librarians of the times, but as the best dancer and the most talented amateur actor in the American Li-



brary Association. Mr. Bowker paid a tribute to the women pioneers of the library profession, among them Mrs. Minerva W. Sanders, known to all as "Mawtucket of Pawtucket" who started two great movements, the incorporation of the separate children's room in libraris, and open shelves, which system was adopted by Mr. Brett in Cleveland for the first time in a large public library. Needless to say, it was with deep regret on the part of the members of the association that Mr. Bowker was forced to bring his talk to a close.

A business meeting was held at the close of Mr. Bowker's address and reports of various committees were heard. Mr. Bailey, chairman of the Library War Council for the state of Indiana, reported that while he had only heard from 85 of the 160 towns throughout the state, he could safely promise more than \$45,000 toward the \$1,000,000 book fund of the A. L. A. Of the 85 towns reporting 52 had made or exceeded their quota, and Mr. Bailey felt that Indiana need not be ashamed of its part in this work. Mr. Sanborn then gave his report of district meetings of the past year. Of the 9 districts, 3 had held two meetings each and the remaining one each. The late Spring meeting had not been held in several cases, owing to the American Library Association meeting in June, as it was felt that every effort should be made to attend this meeting. Mr. Sanborn told of a plan to choose 12 centers for district meetings and to group the cities around these centers as he thought that new districts with new associates would bring more life into the meetings.

The nominating committee, the auditing committee and the committee on resolutions were then announced from the chair as follows:

**Nominating Committee—**

Miss Jayne of Bluffton, Chairman;  
Miss Tutt of South Bend,  
Miss Roberts of Wabash.

**Auditing Committee—**

Miss Herbert of Lagrange, Chairman;  
Miss Bailey of Gary.

**Committee on Resolutions—**

Miss Davidson of Vincennes, Chairman;  
Miss Tier of Huntington,  
Mr. Rush of Indianapolis.

Mr. Sanborn took this opportunity to announce that the Art Club had been taken over by the Indiana University Extension Division, that there would be no dues and that former officers and directors would be held as an advisory committee. The meeting then adjourned.

A second session of the association was held in the ballroom of the Hotel Anthony. Owing to the fact that Mr. Yarros, the principal speaker of the evening, was delayed in reaching Fort Wayne, Mr. Sanborn began the program with a very inspiring and stimulating talk on library war service. His paper is printed in part in this number of the "Occurrent."

Mr. V. S. Yarros, of Hull House, Chicago, presented an intensely interesting and lucid explanation of the present situation in Russia under the title "Revolution and Evolution in Russia." Mr. Yarros described the typical qualities of the Russian classes which have made conditions as they are; the peasants with their fatalism, melancholy, hatred of authority, joy in suffering, intense individualism, kindness, passivity and lack of unity and perseverance and absolute ignorance, for in spite of the fact that the government has established technical schools, they are intended only for the aristocrats, nobles and very rich, not for the people at large; then the wage-earning element, over 4,000,000 in number, constantly giving the government great trouble, highly militant, anti-governmental and anarchistic, their leaders having some culture, but given over to extremes, their one watchword being "All or nothing," thinking compromise, immoral and wicked; thirdly, Russia's middle class, insignificant in numbers and undeveloped more illiterate than the peasants, extremely conservative and reactionary, and playing no part in the present situation; fourthly, the landed gentry and nobility, of some education and culture, altruistic and prepared for sacrifice, rather progressive as they have been responsible for the emancipation of slaves and various other reforms, and have played a fairly important part in the history of their country; lastly the intellectuals, drawn from all social classes, distinguished by education and culture, radical, governing Russia and making great

sacrifices for freedom—men such as Maxim Gorky, Turgenieff, and Tostoi—uniting all forces on the destruction of the old autocracy. These are the castes of which Russia is made and Mr. Yarros thinks that the Kerensky government while not satisfying the wage-earning element is more representative and that a union of the great Russian masses is inevitable in spite of the war.

Owing to the illness of Miss Hanna, the association was deprived the pleasure of hearing her talk on the "Fall season in bird life," and the session closed with an informal reception held in the Public Library.

The round tables were held on Thursday morning, October 18th, at 9 a. m. The small libraries round table met in the Assembly Room of the library with Miss Snipes presiding, Mrs. Charni, the leader, being detained by illness. Mrs. Clodia Scott of the Worthington Public Library, gave an interesting talk on the "Library assembly room as a social center", and Miss Joanna O'Connell, of Winamac gave some valuable "Methods of securing library co-operation outside the schools." The discussion then became informal owing to the absence of those on the regular program.

Under the leadership of Miss Torrance of the Muncie Public Library in the College and Reference round table, Miss Leila Wilcox of Franklin discussed "The co-operation between college and public library"; Miss Sue Beck of Crawfordsville, the "Public library in the college community"; and Miss Florence Venn, of the Indiana State Library, "What the state library can do for both types of libraries." Miss Sturgis of Fort Wayne told of some "New and important reference books."

The Board of Trustees round table had an able leader in Mrs. W. H. Eichhorn of Bluffton and the topics discussed were the library board meeting, Buying for libraries, The library board and the staff, Equipment of libraries, The library trustee and The community.

At 11:00 a. m. a general session was held and the members of the association were fortunate in hearing Mr. Charles Rush of the Indianapolis Public Library discuss the ways and means of reaching business men. Mr.

Rush told of his work along this line in Des Moines, a rapidly growing community whose library was a time-honored institution with one branch and few stations, of small income, and in a poor location from a business point of view, however beautiful from a civic. His problem was to arouse the interest among the business men and tradesmen and his plan was first to arouse the interest, then to increase the field of service, and lastly to demand and get sufficient income for that purpose. He called upon the newspapers and invited the reporters to the library for news, soon overcoming a tendency to mirth on their part. He made talks at all clubs, organizations and classes and illustrated them with graphic charts showing the actual library conditions in Des Moines and comparing them with conditions in other cities in the same class. He removed the red tape from the library making it more accessible. He joined every civic and commercial organization in Des Moines and made a special collection in the library of their publications. He made a feature of exhibits of all kinds in the library and used his own windows for posters and displays as well as down town windows. He kept in touch with the lecturers who were to come to Des Moines and was ready with lists of books to be found in the library on their subjects. He used the library lawn for meetings and the auditorium was open to every class, sect and organization of any description. He talked at annual meetings and banquets of the various stores, posted signs in the elevators, and published as many lists as possible, making good use of publishers lists, book store lists and of all free material. In fact Mr. Rush did everything within his power to advertise the library, taking good care that the service within the library was of high degree of intelligence and efficiency.

The fourth session opened at 3:00 p. m. with a discussion of pictures and their use. Miss Tutt, of South Bend, talked on the collection of pictures, the various sources from which they can be derived, and their value to a library in school and club work. Mr. Bailey, of Gary, in discussing the use of lanterns and slides, thought that they were particularly valuable in illustrating and preserving local

history and scenes, and as a basis for talks on the work of the library though perhaps generally left to a special library or to the extension department of the state university. He gave many valuable suggestions as to the comparative merits and cost of different machines, slides and screens. (Mr. Bailey's paper will be printed in the January Occurrent.) Miss Ticer of Huntington, followed with a talk on the use of graphs and scopes and told of the various ways of using a collection to the best possible advantage among the schools, clubs and as a means of illustrating the library story-hour and following the Sunday School lesson.

An open discussion on library book buying followed with Miss Scott as leader. Mr. George E. Parker, of Baker and Taylor, and Mr. P. Wolter, of McClurg, who were down on the program, did not put in an appearance, therefore M. Frederick G. Melcher, of W. K. Stewart, Indianapolis, had the field to himself. Inasmuch as the lines of interest of bookseller and librarian run side by side, Mr. Melcher hopes to see the time when they will be trained in the same school. Mr. Melcher presented an able and interesting talk on the bookselling trade as a profession.

A business meeting followed and reports of the nominating committee, the auditing committee and the committee on resolutions were read and approved. The following candidates were announced by Miss Tutt, the chairman of the nominating committee:

Miss Annette Clark, of New Albany, President.

Mr. F. G. Melcher, of Indianapolis, Vice-President.

Miss Carrie Scott, Indianapolis, Secretary.

Miss Olive Brumbaugh, Frankfort, Treasurer.

Mr. H. N. Sanborn, alternate delegate.

Mr. Bailey moved that the report of the nominating committee be accepted and that the secretary cast the ballot, making the election unanimous, which motion was carried.

The report of the Committee on Resolutions is as follows: "Having a very keen sense of the personal pleasure and profit with which each delegate is enjoying this particular con-

vention, your Committee on Resolutions submits the following for your approval:

That the Indiana Library Association is deeply indebted to the citizens of Fort Wayne, the Library Board, the Local Arrangements Committee, the Officers and Members of the Fort Wayne Rotary Club, and especially to Miss M. M. Colerick and the members of her Library Staff, for the delightful hospitality and entertainment extended throughout the interesting sessions of this 26th annual meeting of the Association:

That a special expression of appreciation is due Mr. Bowker, Mr. Yarros, and Miss Stearns for the courtesy of their visits and the rare charm of their addresses:

Therefore, this Committee recommends that the Secretary be instructed to send an appreciative expression from the Association to all those who have contributed so largely to the joy and helpfulness of this gathering:

And it is further recommended that all special and standing committees on Pensions and Memberships be urged and committed to greater efforts and results during the coming year in order that the Association may more nearly reach the nth power of its influence for greater and better things within the large field of its activities."

Respectfully submitted,

ELLA DAVIDSON,

WINIFRED TICER,

CHARLES E. RUSH.

*Committee.*

The treasurer's report was incomplete inasmuch as there were bills still outstanding. Receipts amounting to \$290.87 were reported and expenditures amounting to \$105.48, leaving a balance in the treasury of \$184.39 to cover all outstanding bills.

An interesting feature of this meeting was the presentation to the association by the President of a gavel made from a portion of a plank taken from the original Old National Road at Plainfield.

An invitation was extended to the association by Mr. Rush to hold the next meeting of the association in Indianapolis at the New Central Library Building. The meeting then adjourned.

The final session of the association was held in the Assembly Room of the library at 8:00 p. m. and Miss Lutie Stearns of Wisconsin gave a most delightful and entertaining talk on the "Library's place in the Ideal Democracy." She deplored the fact that such a small percentage of the population of a community is reached by the library and discussed the various economic problems in the world today as they relate to the function of the library. She emphasized the necessity of advertising, the value of making the libraries attractive to all classes of people by means of comfortable and artistic surroundings as the important thing is to get the people to come to the library in order that the librarian may have the joy of making her influence felt in the community.

At the close of Miss Stearns' address, the association disbanded for another year.

CERENE OHR,  
*Secretary.*

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